Quiz 11 – Chapter 8 – The Legislative Branch  
  
1. Functions of the Texas legislature include all of the following, *except*

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|  | a. | enacting legislation. |
|  | b. | proposing constitutional amendments. |
|  | c. | appointing state judges. |
|  | d. | removing executive and judicial officials. |

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2. Legislative redistricting for both houses in Texas routinely occurs

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|  | a. | every even-numbered years. |
|  | b. | every odd-numbered years. |
|  | c. | the first odd-numbered year in a decade. |
|  | d. | the first even-numbered year in a decade. |

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3. Which of the following is true of members of the Texas Senate?

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|  | a. | They usually serve terms of two years with no term limits. |
|  | b. | They usually serve terms of two years with a limit of 3 terms. |
|  | c. | They usually serve terms of four years with no term limits. |
|  | d. | They usually serve terms of four years with a limit of 3 terms. |

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4. The Texas House of Representatives consists of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ members.

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|  | a. | 31 |
|  | b. | 55 |
|  | c. | 150 |
|  | d. | 400 |

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5. A vacancy in the Texas House or Senate arising during a term is filled by

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|  | a. | the chamber’s presiding officer. |
|  | b. | the Legislative Redistricting Board. |
|  | c. | a special election. |
|  | d. | governor’s appointment. |

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6. Regular sessions of the Texas legislature meet for

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|  | a. | 140 days, in odd-numbered years. |
|  | b. | 150 days, every single year. |
|  | c. | 140 days in even-numbered years. |
|  | d. | 150 days, every four years. |

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7. All Texas Senate seats are up for election every 10 years because

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|  | a. | senators serve five-year terms. |
|  | b. | senators are limited to two terms. |
|  | c. | the number of senate seats may change. |
|  | d. | Senate district lines are redrawn every 10 years. |

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8. Which of the following is *not* true regarding special sessions of the Texas legislature?

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|  | a. | They may only meet for 30 days. |
|  | b. | They have their agenda set by the governor. |
|  | c. | They may only be called by the governor. |
|  | d. | They are limited to three per year. |

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9. The federal court case that applied the doctrine of “one-man, one-vote” to Texas was

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|  | a. | *Reynolds v. Sims* (1964). |
|  | b. | *Lells v. Kavenaugh* (1991). |
|  | c. | *Kilgarlin v. Martin* (1965). |
|  | d. | *Ruiz v. Estelle* (1980). |

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10. The U.S. Supreme Court found in *Reynolds v. Sims* (1964) that

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|  | a. | legislative districts of bicameral state legislatures must have substantially equal populations. |
|  | b. | only the lower house of state legislatures must have substantially equal populations. |
|  | c. | all states must have bicameral legislatures. |
|  | d. | some term limits for members of Congress violates the U.S. Constitution. |

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11. The legislative redistricting maps approved by the 82nd Texas Legislature in 2011 were challenged because​

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|  | a. | ​they appeared to discriminate against the election of historical minority groups. |
|  | b. | ​they appeared to favor the election of Republicans. |
|  | c. | they appeared to favor the election of incumbents. |
|  | d. | ​they appeared to discriminate against the election of Democrats. |

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12. Under the Texas Constitution, those serving in the Texas legislature

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|  | a. | cannot hold another government office. |
|  | b. | are able to hold more than one government office. |
|  | c. | can be paid by another governmental entity. |
|  | d. | cannot earn money from private sector sources. |

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13. Which of the following is *not* listed in the Texas Constitution as a qualification for membership in the Texas legislature?

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|  | a. | U.S. citizenship |
|  | b. | Residency in the district |
|  | c. | College degree |
|  | d. | Voter qualification |

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14. Which statement about women in the Texas state legislature is true?​

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|  | a. | ​In recent elections, the number of women elected to the state legislature has increased. |
|  | b. | ​The percentage of women in the state legislature is equal to the percentage of women in the general population. |
|  | c. | ​In recent elections, the number of women elected to the state legislature has declined. |
|  | d. | ​Female legislators have always been treated with respect and dignity by their male colleagues. |

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15. Educationally, most members of the Texas legislature have

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|  | a. | attended institutions of higher learning. |
|  | b. | only completed high school. |
|  | c. | received post-graduate degrees. |
|  | d. | attended private, not public school. |

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16. Republican membership in the Texas legislature has

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|  | a. | remained at about the same level since 1961. |
|  | b. | tended to be elected from major cities. |
|  | c. | constituted a majority in both chambers since 2003. |
|  | d. | been mainly due to the support of Latino voters. |

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17. Turnover in the Texas legislature is *most* likely to be high in those

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|  | a. | elections immediately before redistricting. |
|  | b. | elections immediately after redistricting. |
|  | c. | gubernatorial election years. |
|  | d. | presidential election years. |

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18. Compared to legislators in other states, those in Texas receive

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|  | a. | low pay, low allowances, and meager retirements. |
|  | b. | average pay, high allowances, and meager retirements. |
|  | c. | low pay, reasonable allowances, and generous retirements. |
|  | d. | high pay, low allowances, and generous retirements. |

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19. Which of the following is *not* correct regarding the lieutenant governor of Texas?

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|  | a. | He or she is chosen by direct popular vote. |
|  | b. | He or she is the presiding officer of the Texas Senate. |
|  | c. | He or she is first in line of succession to fill a governorship vacancy. |
|  | d. | He or she receives a constitutional salary of $46,000 per year. |

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20. Which of the following is *not* a power accorded to the lieutenant governor by the Texas Constitution or Senate rules?

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|  | a. | Voting on all bills before the Senate |
|  | b. | Recognizing senators who wish to speak |
|  | c. | Appointing the chairs of all Senate committees |
|  | d. | Referring all bills to standing committees |

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